Revival of Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.

*433. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures Government are taking to revive the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.;

(b) whether any proposal has been submitted by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for revival of Hindustan Shipyard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Hindustan Shipyard has recently got an order to build 30,000 tonnes capacity DWT bulk carrier ships; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) A Rehabilitation-cum-Financial Restructuring package is under active consideration of the Central Government for the revival of Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL). The package under consideration envisages capital investments, provision of working capital and write off of old interest and loan liabilities.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Government of India had requested the Government of Andhra Pradesh for complete waiver of Sales Tax arrears of Rs. 45.84 crs. and interest which would be helpful in revival of cash-starved HSL. Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed for a one-time settlement of Rs. 5.00 crores subject to approval of the Revival package by Government of India.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. has got order from M/s. Goodearth Maritime Limited, Chennai for construction of 4 nos. 30,000 Dead Weight Tonnage (DWT) Trader Series Bulkers. The Contract for the first two vessels was signed on the 21st May, 2004 and the contract for the other two vessels was signed on the 3rd January, 2005.

Action against officers demanding dowry

*434. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of any media reports that in

Rajasthan marriage market, IAS, IPS and IRS officers command the highest price at over Rs. one crore in cash besides gold gifts and flashy weddings;

(b) whether this is in accordance with Government's conduct rules; and

(c) if not, the steps Government propose to bring home the provision in the conduct rules and the concerned officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRISURESH PACHOURI): (a) Government of Rajasthan has informed that it has no information about the existence of any such market in Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) IAS/IPS officers are governed by the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968 and IRS officers are governed by the Central Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1964. These rules prohibit giving or taking of dowry or abetting thereof. The attention of officers is drawn to these provisions during their training in the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration.

Coal reforms

*435. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to address the issue of coal sector reforms, immediately;

(b) whether Finance Minister addressing media has pointed out after stock taking of Government's economic performance a year after it came to power, that power sector could not record higher growth due to shortage of coal;

(c) if so, what are the proposed reforms to be considered in regard to coal;

(d) whether any concrete policy has been framed and prepared; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when a final decision in starting coal reforms are to be initiated?